

of a flask containing salt-solution and of similar objects into a work on gynecology? L. E.

which already contains so many notable contributions from American writers.

H. E. A

**"Pellagra—History, Distribution, Diagnosis, Prognosis, Treatment, Etiology."** By Stewart R. Roberts, S. M., M. D. C. V. Mosby Co., St. Louis. \$2.50.

This volume attempts to consider the subject of "Pellagra" in a rather complete manner. The illustrations are numerous and excellent. The arrangement of the text is rather unconventional, beginning by devoting a page to the pronunciation of the word pellagra, taking up next a description of cases of the disease, and then giving its definition and general description. The author next furnishes a quite complete chapter on "history and geographical distribution" and in this chapter appears to show evidence of more than ordinary familiarity with previous authors, but at the same time leaves this part defective in the absence of references to bibliography. Throughout the book terseness of expression is wanting and in places a whole page might be reduced to a short paragraph without loss of information. In addition to this verbosity there are parts of the book where the style of English is so poor as to suggest hurried proof reading; for example, "She has always lived within one hundred yards of a branch and half a mile of a creek all her life and has eaten cornbread in the usual amounts."

In his consideration of the symptomatology, pathology and diagnosis of the disease, the author shows that he has a thorough knowledge of his subject and is moreover probably a keen clinical observer. When considering the several theories that have been advanced on the cause of pellagra, the author takes a very wise and judicial view, which, expressed briefly, is that we are without certain knowledge on this part of the subject.

The only unfavorable criticism of this work is the mode of its presentation; the information imparted is accurate and full.

D. H. C., M. D.

**A Treatise on Diseases of the Hair.** By George Thomas Jackson, M. D., Professor of Dermatology in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Medical Department of Columbia University, and Charles Wood McMurtry, M. D., Instructor in Dermatology in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Medical Department of Columbia University, New York. Octavo, 366 pages, with 109 engravings and 10 colored plates. Cloth, \$3.75, net. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia and New York, 1912.

The authors have drawn from their extensive experience and from all the literature on the subject in writing this instructive and practical book. In the preface they announce their intention to place before their readers "all that is known about the diseases of the hair and scalp." They have succeeded in doing so in an interesting and concise manner within 366 pages. The volume is illustrated with many excellent photographs taken from the authors' clinic and from other writers. It contains also many excellent plates from microphotographs illustrating various pathological conditions. There are some few color plates which are so very good that it is a matter of regret that there are not more of them. The black and white illustrations are quite good however. The chapters on ringworm of the scalp are particularly comprehensive. They are based largely on Sabouraud's great work. The senior author, whose valuable work in dermatology for many years is so well known, has given to the book that character which has made his other writings so popular. The sections on anatomy, etiology, pathology, and bacteriology have been handled ably by the junior author. The book is a valuable addition to dermatological literature

**"Principle and Practice of Medicine."** By Sir William Osler, Bt., M. D., F. R. S. Published by D. Appleton & Co., New York and London, 1912.

Appearing in conjunction with the texts of Strumpell and Dieulafoy, the eighth edition of Osler's Practice is at hand. It would indeed seem a task both needless and presumptuous to offer a review of a work so widely known were it not that this, the eighth revision in twenty years, shows probably the greatest individual number of changes. In reading one experiences a pleasure as of meeting old friends, for the "personal" part is little changed. It is this foundation of the book, the expression of the author's own observations and opinions, that makes it a master-work and at the same time such delightful reading. It is to be hoped that no amount of future editing will change this feature that has made a text-book a classic. Of necessity many changes do occur, the ever increasing literature having been sifted by experienced hands with the proper leavening of conservatism.

Naturally the greatest alterations are found in the section on the infectious diseases since it is here that the present advances are being made. A new and more logical grouping is adopted, classification being according to the biological character of the etiological agent. In typhoid fever the plan of liberal feeding is urged, and prophylactic vaccination for those exposed, although very briefly touched upon, is recommended. In the discussion of the diagnosis of pulmonary tuberculosis there is exhibited a conservatism which if coming from any but such a master clinician might bring forth a word of question. The reviewer believes that the general profession errs oftener in neglecting to call a doubtful case tuberculous than in doing the opposite. Timely emphasis is laid upon the non-bacterial fungus infections about which there is so much at present being written. In the section on malaria we find again that misstatement that "malaria is rare on the Pacific Coast," although from the excellent eradication efforts being put forth in this state it may not be necessary to amend this in future editions. Syphilis comes in for a generous share of revision, salvarsan and the luetin reaction being considered. Regarding the infections of doubtful etiology, the recent work on poliomyelitis is reviewed, Brill's disease is assumed to be sporadic typhus, and sections on acute tonsillitis and acute coryza added.

Beriberi and pellagra are classed as intoxications rather than infections and the maize theory of the etiology of the latter emphasized. The term "diseases of metabolism" is more happily substituted for "constitutional diseases" of previous editions. It is notable that arthritis deformans is no longer considered here but under diseases of the locomotor system, and that weight is put upon its possible infectious origin with the metabolic changes secondary. It is very pleasing to see that the term "chronic rheumatism" of the earlier texts is mentioned only to be condemned, and that "myalgia" is substituted for "muscular rheumatism." A new cut and several diagrams of pulse tracings appear with the diseases of the circulatory system. The remainder of the book is not greatly altered although one can hardly read a page through without finding some bit of revision or some reference to new work as evidences of its most careful and conscientious editing.

As regards the mechanical part of the book little more can be said than that it is quite up to the publishers' standard. A particularly welcome feature is the printing of the index in larger type than formerly. Only two typographical errors